

REMARKS

Upon entry of this paper, claims 1, 3-5, 13, and 16 are pending in the subject application.

Applicants have herein canceled claims 6-9, 11, 14, 15, 17, and 18 (Applicants previously canceled claims 2, 10, and 12). The cancellation of claims 6-9, 11, 14, 15, 17, and 18 does not introduce any new matter.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication in the Final Office Action that claims 1, 3-5, 13, and 16 define allowable subject matter. To place the subject application in condition for immediate allowance, Applicants have canceled the claims that were rejected in the Final Office Action, namely claims 6-9, 11, 14, 15, 17, and 18.

In light of the cancellation of claims 6-9, 11, 14, 15, 17, and 18 herein, Applicants submit that the prior art rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 set forth in the Final Office Action are moot.

Applicants respectfully request that the amendments made herein be entered. The amendments made herein involve only the cancellation of claims. As such, the amendments do not raise any new issues or require any additional search. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments comply with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.116(b) and should be entered.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and reexamination of the subject application, and submit that claims 1, 3-5, 13, and 16 are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, a notice of allowance is respectfully requested. In the event a telephone conversation would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner may reach the undersigned at (408) 749-6902. If any fees are due in connection

U.S. Application No. 09/988,037
Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 dated July 28, 2006
Response to Final Office Action dated April 28, 2006

with the filing of this paper, then the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees to

Deposit Account No. 50-0805 (Order No. MIPFP076).

Respectfully submitted,
MARTINE PENILLA & GENCARELLA, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter B. Martine', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

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